

By Adam Goldman

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A telephone call and e-mail to Iran's U.N. Mission seeking comment were not immediately answered. Nor was a call to the Alavi Foundation.

In a statement, the Fiqh Council of North America expressed concern about the action.

"FCNA stands strongly in support of the freedom of belief and worship of all faith communities, which includes respecting the autonomy of places of worship and related religious institutions such as religious schools," the statement read in part. "It is to be emphasized that such a basic human right is guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution. It is also one of the objectives of **the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom**, a body monitoring religious rights of minorities all over the world."